



Milano

# MISSION MILAN

The quarterly newsletter of URCNA missionary Rev. Michael Brown

## FEBRUARY 2020

*Did you know?*

- ◆ Milan was the capital of the Roman Empire for over 100 years.
- ◆ Milan is the city where Ambrose planted five churches in the fourth century.
- ◆ Augustine was baptized in Milan and lived here for many years, studying under Ambrose.
- ◆ Milan has the largest and most populated metropolitan area in all of Italy.
- ◆ Milan is considered a leading global city today in the areas of finance, fashion, art, design, and biotechnology.
- ◆ Milan is the world's 7th most expensive city. With low wages, high unemployment, and astronomical taxes, many Milanese live with a sense of anxiety and hopelessness. The city is rife with drugs, prostitution, and corruption.

We only have one life with which to serve the Lord and do our part in the Great Commission. May God grant us courage and patience to plant his churches in cities where there are very few, and make disciples of Jesus!

## A NEW FAMILY AND A NEW CONVERT

Last month, *Chiesa Riformata Filadelfia* in Milan had the privilege of witnessing the baptism of Giacomo Rinaldi, a young man who professed his faith in Christ and made known his desire to follow Jesus as a disciple. We were also blessed to receive his parents Eliseo and Cristina, and his older brother Giovanni into membership. The whole family previously completed a new members' class with me and the elders, the first one I have taught in Italian! They made public vows and were welcomed into the fellowship of God's people. What a tremendous blessing! Please pray that the Lord will continue to bring unbelievers and new families to *Chiesa Riformata Filadelfia* so that they can hear the gospel and be discipled in the faith.



## MEETING JESUS THROUGH ENGLISH CLASSES

On Wednesday evenings, I teach English as a second language through the Gospel of Mark. Rev. Paul Murphy, pastor of Messiah's Reformed Fellowship in NYC, gave me this wonderful idea as a form of outreach. The class is very full and the response has been good. Generally, Italians want to learn English from a teacher who is "madrelingua" (mother tongue), so this is a golden opportunity for unbelievers to meet Jesus through the Gospel of Mark, learn about our church, and meet Christians. Please pray that the Lord will use this class for his glory, and that we can be a good witness to our neighbors.



### FREE ENGLISH CLASSES

#### LEZIONI DI INGLESE GRATUITE

Ogni mercoledì per 16 settimane,  
dal 5 febbraio 2020 - ore 20:30  
presso Chiesa Riformata Filadelfia

Insegnante madrelingua

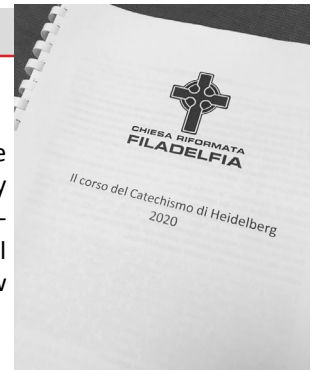
#### CONTATTI

Chiesa Riformata Filadelfia  
Via Povera, 56/58  
20026 Novate Milanese (MI)  
Per maggiori informazioni:  
[www.chiesariformatafiladelfia.org](http://www.chiesariformatafiladelfia.org)



## NEW ITALIAN CURRICULUM FOR THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

For our catechism services during 2020, our congregation is using a new curriculum that I wrote in Italian. We printed them as spiral-bound, 100-page workbooks and provided a copy to every adult and child in the church. Currently, there is nothing like this available in the Italian language. It is a first for our congregation, and it has been well received. We pray that the Lord will use this as a means for our growth in the faith as we learn essential Christian doctrine and how to apply it to our lives.



## YOUNG PEOPLES MEETINGS

Each month, the young people of the congregation gather in our home for a Bible study, prayer, food and games. We have also been going on some fun outings, simply to spend time together and encourage fellowship. It is a joy to get to know them better and see their relationships bond. They are challenged by the fact that there are very few young Christians in Milan. Please pray for them, that they will be strengthened in their faith and live unashamedly and joyfully for Christ. They are precious to Janie and me, and feel privileged to open our home to them.

## MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU IN 2020!

Thank you for your prayers, notes/letters/cards of encouragement, and financial support during 2019. We are so grateful for all who think of this mission and labor with us in prayer. There is so much work to do here, and we are humbled and happy to do it. May the Lord strengthen you in 2020 by his ever-sufficient grace so that you will be "steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:58).

Pastor Mike Brown

## How you can help

We need your prayers and support. Here are some of our most pressing prayer requests:

- That Christ will be preached faithfully and clearly;
- That the Lord will provide many opportunities for evangelism and outreach in Milan;
- That the church will continue to grow in maturity, faith, hope, and love;
- That the Browns will continue to master the Italian language and adapt to Italian life;
- That the Lord will provide for our son Iain to continue at the private international school where he has been attending;
- That the Lord will provide for our needs in 2020.

The mission in Milan is only possible with the faithful prayers and generous contributions of people like you. If you would like to help us meet our goal by making a donation, you may send a check to:

### Escondido United Reformed Church

1864 N. Broadway  
Escondido, CA 92026

*Checks should be made out to Escondido United Reformed Church. **Please indicate that the support is for Rev. Michael Brown as a missionary to Italy.***

## We'd Love to Hear From You!

To contact the Browns:

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For more information about the Reformed church in Milan, visit:

chiesariformatatfiladelfia.org  
and  
reformationitaly.org

